



Student Spotlight

DAVID CARNEVALE

"I've decided to get baptized," David told me one Tuesday night after worship. Most weeks when worship is over, students stick around, play ping pong, snack, and laugh. Last semester, when most students would finally call it a night, David would hang back and we would get to talk one on one. He started coming to the Wesley about a year ago, and since his first visit hasn't missed a single event we've done. Camping, Eureka Springs, cookouts, you name it – he's been there. Part of David's love for the Wesley is that he's a natural people person who is warm, friendly, disarming, and an easy conversationalist. The other part is that David is a brand-new Christian who wants Christian community, has questions about the Bible, and wants to know how to live life for Christ.

One of his main concerns in the last few weeks of the semester was how his parents would respond to his new faith and if they would be supportive or not. As I coached David through how to talk with them, I could tell he was afraid but also determined to invite his parents to be a part of his decision. We prayed and David prepared for the worst. The next week, David came through the doors and his usual smile was a little broader than normal. "They're coming into town for my baptism!" David was elated. My hope is that as David continues to grow in his faith, his parents will be drawn to the love of Christ in him – just as he encountered Christ at the Wesley. Being able to love and disciple students like David is a privilege and a joy. Thank you all for making our ministry to students like David possible!